

35,000 stories on the Net
24 hours after Pope's death

5 YEARS TO GO
 A TIME TO REMEMBER
 Pope John Paul II's death is being remembered in many ways. Major news media worldwide are devoting a lot of space to his death as they did in the past.

PHILIPPINE DAILY

INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

AFP admits Church, media groups on its CD 'terrorist' list

By Don T. Penabaz

IT'S TRUE: the Armed Forces have documented "terrorist" lists. But the AFP has been accused of including the Philippine Church and media groups on its "terrorist" list.

Wednesday, April 6, 2005 • 38 pages • Vol. 38 • No. 137

All roads lead to Rome

Expected crowd biggest ever in Vatican history

VATICAN CITY—Just as it is his for now shows in the public gaze, so in death Pope John Paul II is expected to be the world and all of the world's eyes to be coming to him to pay their last respects.

The Polish Pope's body lay in state in St. Peter's Basilica on Tuesday drawing a sea of faithful to his side as the Roman Catholic Church prepared for his funeral on Friday and welcomed into his final resting place.

Catholics around the world are expected to watch the funeral on television. The Pope's death is expected to be the most watched event in the world's history. The Pope's death is expected to be the most watched event in the world's history.



APPLAUSE, SILENCE Pope John Paul II's body lies in state in St. Peter's Basilica. They also speak of healing hope and a sense of history.

Rome sets up defense shield, no fly zone

ROME—Creating up for the arrival of more pilgrims and preventing any acts of terrorism, Rome is setting up a defense shield that will include a no-fly zone and anti-aircraft missiles.

Crowd control operations are already well under way on the ground, with the city's police and army units ready to deal with any threats. The Pope's death is expected to be the most watched event in the world's history.

Calling all '95 World Youth Day veterans

By Christine E. Figueroa
and Virginia Papalotto
PHOTOGRAPHY

THE SPIRIT is calling from the past. Those who will be 10 years old on the day of the 25th World Youth Day gathering.

On the eve of the Pope's funeral on Friday, pilgrims in their 300s are expected to be in Rome for the Pope's funeral.

Sin raring to go but needs doctors' OK

By Christine E. Figueroa
and Virginia Papalotto
PHOTOGRAPHY

The 79-year-old pope is expected to have his last moments in the Vatican's St. Peter's Basilica. The Pope's death is expected to be the most watched event in the world's history.

Who's with GMA as she leaves tonight for Vatican

By Ed Calma
and Mike De la Cruz

Manila, Philippines. Philippine Airlines (PAL) is expected to be the only airline to fly the Pope's body to Rome. The Pope's death is expected to be the most watched event in the world's history.



'LIKE WALKING INTO HEAVEN'
 The amazing sight of St. Peter's Basilica is a sight to see for the Pope's funeral. The Pope's death is expected to be the most watched event in the world's history.

Pagcor denies casino deal with Stanley Ho

By Philip C. Tubeza

NO, STANLEY Ho is not coming to town.

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) yesterday denied accusations it was helping Macao casino mogul Ho make a comeback in the country.

Pagcor said its board of directors on March 29 passed a resolution categorically denying that it had any dealings with Ho, adding that it had "no plan" to work with him in operating a casino "or in any related matter."

In a statement, Pagcor said: "This resolution was passed in order to clear the rumor that Pagcor has business relations with Ho and to [ease] the public's anxiety over this issue."

Pagcor issued the statement after Ilocos Rep. Imee Marcos said on March 28 that Ho was "well on his way to gobbling up the lion's share" of casino operations in the country with the reopening of his mothballed \$600-million Jumbo Palace Floating Restaurant on Manila Bay in May.

Marcos had also urged Pagcor to

disclose its dealings with Ho's alleged associates, Lin Wei Cheng and Cheng Yu-tung, the owners of the new Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila on Pedro Gil Street in Malate.

Pagcor said it had not received any "applications or proposals from Ho" to open gaming establishments in the country. It also said it had "no intention" of setting up a casino in Ho's floating restaurant.

It added that it was "not aware of any plans" regarding Jumbo Palace, whose opening several years ago was fiercely opposed by the Catholic Church and other groups who believed it was going to be converted into a casino.

"(Pagcor) maintains its commitment to the highest principles of professionalism and transparency," the Pagcor statement said.

"Its record-breaking performance year after year since chairman [Efraim] Genuino took over is a clear indication of the soundness of the business decisions and management style implemented by the current Pagcor administration," it said.

Pagcor pointed out that in 2004, it

posted a "phenomenal" income of P29.9 billion, the highest in its 22-year history.

The 2004 income beat the previous record of P20.21 billion set in 2002, which had earned for Pagcor the top spot in the Securities and Exchange Commission's list of the most profitable corporations that year.

"This achievement strongly reinforces Pagcor's position as one of the most reliable sources of much-needed revenues for the government," Pagcor said.

Marcos had also called for a congressional investigation into Pagcor's recent signing of 60-40 revenue-sharing deals with a slew of slot machine operators, "in apparent violation of its charter that sets private investors' income to a maximum of only 10 percent."

"These deals will bleed the government of billions at a time when the public is being squeezed for more tax revenues," Marcos said.

"Pagcor has waltzed around the law by [granting] these lease contracts for slot machines which are, for all intents and purposes, sub-franchises. Pagcor has in fact usurped the power of Congress," she said.

ISPs not doing enough to curb child porn, says research center

By Volk Contreras

LOCAL Internet service providers or ISPs can play a crucial role in curbing child pornography in the Philippines, but they proved "uncooperative" when approached by a research center commissioned by the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) to write a book on this tech-savvy crime.

"We were so frustrated with ISPs. They were uncooperative and they did not want to talk with us; not a single interview was granted," recalled Dr. Elizabeth Protacio-De Castro of the Center for Integrative and Development Studies of the University of the Philippines.

"What message are they sending us?" De Castro said, adding that the companies could have offered "suggestions" on how law enforcers can trace and apprehend cyber-porn sites that use minors.

The UP professor made the remarks at yesterday's launch of the book "Child Pornography in the Philippines" at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

The affair was graced by Unicef executive director Carol Bellamy and Social Welfare Secretary Con-

son "Dinky" Soliman.

De Castro heads the UP-CIDS' Psychological Trauma and Human Rights Program which the Unicef commissioned last year to write the book, the first of its kind in Southeast Asia.

According to the book, there is "extensive evidence that child pornography is occurring in the Philippines as a result of both foreign and domestic perpetrators seeking to exploit poor and vulnerable families and children."

One of its "most worrisome findings" is that the Internet serves as "link between local producers and networks of pornographers operating overseas."

But despite this alarming trend, Arnie Trinidad, the CIDS researcher who authored the book, said none of the eight ISP companies he approached between April and September last year granted his request for interviews.

"They either claimed to have no time or that (the subject) is not their purview," he told the INQUIRER.

"They could have given us suggestions on how to (go after) the websites that put out child pornography," said De Castro, who stressed that these companies should be governed by a "self-regulating mechanism" for this purpose.

Both De Castro and Trinidad surmised that the ISPs were reluctant because they were simply "protecting their business."

All speakers during the launch underscored how technology—including digital camera cell phones—had made child porn one of the most elusive criminal operations in the world today.

De Castro said the trade had become so sophisticated that one modus operandi in Metro Manila involved simply sending a nude child's digital photo "via cell phone" to a customer "in exchange for P100 load." It's either the minor herself or a pimp who would take and peddle the photo, she said.

Bellamy said that apart from legislators and law enforcers, the private sector should get more involved in the war against child porn. She made special mention of ISPs as well as travel agencies, the latter in relation to the so-called sex tours.

On Monday, the Unicef official told lawmakers attending the Inter-Parliamentary Union assembly in Manila how child trafficking had grown into a global, \$10-billion industry, rivaling the trade in illicit drugs and arms.

'Too many holidays'

By Jerome Aning

THE DEPARTMENT of Labor and Employment has backed a proposal in Congress to put an end to frequent declarations of public and special non-working holidays.

"The behavior of economic factors must be put to productive use. Too many holidays have a negative net effect on employers and workers alike," Labor Undersecretary of Workers Welfare and Protection Benedicto Ernesto Bitonio Jr. told reporters.

He said the DOLE supports Marikina City Rep. Del de Guzman's proposed resolution calling on the executive branch not to declare any more public holidays apart from the 11 legal holidays and two special non-working days.

The labor official said about a million daily wage earners, or those who earn on a no-work-no-pay basis, would be the most affected by the excess in holidays.

Employers complain that giving extra pay to their workers who go to work on holidays does not necessarily translate to increased productivity, Bitonio explained.

Also, the undersecretary added, some businesses would suffer loss of productivity since they would be paying monthly wage earners even if they do not go to work on the declared public holiday.

De Guzman said that during holidays, employers pay their employees about P5.08 billion a day even if there was no work done.

"The practice of declaring additional non-working holidays contradicts our imperative need as a nation to act faster and work harder in improving our economic situation and negates the value of labor and industry as being an important fabric of nation-building," the lawmaker said.

Declaring an extra holiday, usually Fridays or Mondays when the regular holiday falls on a weekend, originated from President Macapagal-Arroyo's "holiday economics" or "longer weekend" drive to boost domestic tourism.

All roads lead to Rome

Continued

in Europe, one would end up in Rome, the pope's capital.

Italian media reported that all a million people had queued to see the body laid out before the Vatican's main altar since the public viewing began at midnight 8 p.m. ET a.m. Thursday in St. Peter's Basilica.

"Only half an hour, all these people," said Gianni De Michelis, who although he had already seen the Pope's body, decided to join the queue all over again.

Regarded as a citizen and a saint, the Pope left his Apostolic Palace for the last time on Monday, carried out on a stretcher down the Via dei Condottieri, into St. Peter's Square and into the great basilica.

Four Swiss guards in full ceremonial uniform stood at attention around the raised platform where the Pope lay, a shrine amid the typical urban row of a city in his hands.

Sense of history

Moments preceding the Pope's Basilica after paying his last respects to the Pope spoke of feeling grief, hope, and a sense of history swirling thick past his body.

Men waited for hours, some all day, for a chance to see the Pope lying in state in the Vatican's largest church, on the open floor which he had once addressed the faithful.

"Walking toward him in that church, in his, as grandson, was like walking into heaven toward a saint," said Sister Rita Maria, a 70-year-old nun who happened to be on a pilgrimage in Rome when the Pope died. She had waited eight hours.

Black-clad soldiers and military officers in crisp blue uniforms

monitored the endless queue backward. There was only the sound of shuffling and weeping and, sometimes, the electronic whine of home photography.

Videophones

When they reached their turn, many cameras pointed from their hands the surrounding air, capturing pump and pray, and with a few pictures of John Paul II with their videophones.

They said every brief glimpse had been an unforgettable experience.

"I was a unique moment in history. I felt that we were all a family. He was a father to us all," said Isabel Gueiros, a middle-aged Portuguese housewife living in Rome.

Then it was over, many turned against the walls of the basilica and sobbed.

Esther Perini, a 70-year-old woman working as a domestic in Italy, was weeping as she emerged from the basilica.

"This is an hour for me, we are disappointed. Giovanni in Poland is crying, everyone. He was our Pope. I wouldn't see him one last time," she said, her voice breaking.

Camping equipment

Many young people, who had waited overnight in the Vatican, fled past the Pope carrying camping equipment.

"I thought of him when he was trying to speak last week. He still had so much to say. It was a shock to see him lying there," said Nicola Lombardi, a 22-year-old with a ring through his eyebrow and a bearded backpack.

Hours before the basilica had opened its doors to the faithful, tens of thousands were already lined up between Vatican's leading



All UNPROCESSED pictures through a special St. Peter's Square carries the Pope's body from the Apostolic Palace to St. Peter's Basilica on Monday. The camera throughout the entire Pope journey in Rome.

St. Peter's Basilica.

"All my life he has been with me in my darkest moments. I would not have known him," said Rita Perini, 36, who flew to Rome from the Vatican for the occasion with a sleeping bag and enough food to get through the night.

Some people were paying the money as they waited, while others passed the time by reading newspapers or watching old footage of the Pope's life on giant screens.

"The Lord will give us strength to wait for as long as it takes," said Sister Luciana, a 60-year-old nun, a head-baring elderly woman.

Many carried flowers and pictures of the Pope with prayers written on them. Strangers shared smiles and moments of

the last Pope.

In dense growing and aged pilgrims, many wrapped in blankets, stretched from the basilica down the broad avenue from the Vatican to the river Tiber and crisscrossed side streets.

Crush of mourners

Thousands had joined the line on Monday and thousands more were arriving on buses and trains.

The line itself became something of an attraction, with many tourists standing along the crush looking to take pictures of the crowd with the basilica in the background. A group of journalists climbed a temporary structure to get a better view.

Such was the crush of mourners that the giant basilica was closed for little more than an hour to allow viewing to take place, instead of the three hours which had been scheduled.

Chanting, singing

To break the monotony of the waiting, sections of the crowd spontaneously erupted into chants of "John Paul II, John Paul II," clapping, or singing Christian folk songs.

Many were holding the flag of their country, while some held pictures of a smiling John Paul II.

Bishop John Magee of Cloyne, Ireland, who served as secretary to three popes, including John Paul II, said he thought the most

popular outpouring was the chants in kind for the affection the Pope had shown for people like himself.

"I would say he is smiling now and saying, 'Finally they have recognized what I was talking about,'" Magee told Reuters outside the Vatican.

Indefatigable warrior

Three days after the death of the 84-year-old Pope, criticism continued to pour in for the man who had defied doctors, fought for the dispossessed and dispossessed himself within his own Church.

Nelson Mandela, former South African president and an anti-apartheid icon, said the Pope had offered "moral direction and guidance" in a fast-moving but moving world.

"The world is undoubtedly a better one for the legacy and the teaching he leaves behind," Mandela said in a statement.

Cuban President Fidel Castro wrote in a letter of condolences to the Pope: "You in your indefatigable warrior for humanity, for freedom, for peace, for the oppressed people, for the poor and the weak of the world."

In the United States, Pope John at half-staff on public buildings and even the headquarters of the stock market in New York held a moment of silence where dealers, who work busily on computers, were asked not to trade.

Critics in France

But in France, leading French left-wingers sparked a row after criticizing President Jacques Chirac's government for lowering flags on official buildings in tribute to the Pope, which they said breached secular principles. Reports from AFP Reuters and AP

Mexican says Pope healed dying son

MEXICO CITY—A Mexican man told his Pope Paul II performed a miracle when he cured his son, who died of a heart attack in 1998, after a visit to Mexico in 1998, an event described by a local priest.

Confirmed by the Vatican in a letter, the event could put the late Pope on the path to sainthood.

The 42-year-old, Juan Bautista, was suffering from leukemia and had been hospitalized several times by doctors, said his father, Carlos Bautista.

"We had the hope that through the Pope's intervention he would be cured," Juan Bautista said on Thursday.

Carlos Bautista changed when the Pope touched him, kissed his forehead like a child, and spoke to him," the father said. "After that he began crying and recovered quickly, and he was able to walk a miracle," Juan Bautista said.

Mexico officials in June 2004 and John Paul II announced their meeting in Zacatecas.

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THREE-NIGHT VISIT: Pope John Paul II is visiting the Metropolitan Church in Zacatecas where then Cardinal Ruffini said Mass during a two-hour program in Mexico in 1998. (Story on Page A12)

was willing to testify on the case. Carlos said that, according to the disease, the Pope appeared, the boy was cured, and so.

"Personally I believe this miracle," the priest added.

"I had to understand that with the miracle of my son, who was cured, which is a miracle to be testified."

It takes another miracle to believe in miracles.

The Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of the Saints recently told doctors to investigate the case.

Doctors are to confirm whether the cure was a miracle or a natural event.

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'The Great' title bestowed on Pope by popular acclaim

ROME (UPI) — An worldwide movement is building to honor the late Pope John Paul II with a title that has been given to saints and to predecessors who had the Church under their wings.

Could he become the Great?

"I've never heard of the pope as a great saint," said the Rev. Robert J. Kennedy, a priest in the Archdiocese of New York.

It's being proposed by powerful bishops, priests, theologians and even some of the most prominent Catholic Pope John Paul II's friends.

A canon law authority, the Rev. James G. Hennessey, said there was no "code or precedent" for the title.

He said the title "The Great" was a popular acclamation," said Canon, who member of Rome's Pontifical Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

Which is becoming official. Italian newspapers Monday carried the title "The Great" for the late Pope John Paul II.

Catholicism's apostles were full of reverence in the Great Pope. It will be Pope John Paul II, the Great," said Cardinal-Congregation of the Causes of the Saints following the pope's death.

The title for a Pope on his death is St. John Paul II, said the late Pope John Paul II, the Great. But the reference was dropped by Cardinal Joseph Ruffini, who delivered the eulogy.

His explanation was officially the title, but the title was not considered official until it was used.

"In short, he was the most significant leader of our times. I'd say he was the most of the century, and he was the most of the future," said the late Pope John Paul II, the Great.

It would be the first time in history that the title "The Great" was used for a Pope.

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Man of the century

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The WORLD

Editor Luvorne B. Guasco

Thais fear new bomb attacks by militants

BANGKOK—Thailand braced for possible new attacks Tuesday in its insurgency-plagued south following two days of bomb blasts and grenade attacks that killed at least two people and wounded dozens.

The grenade assaults Monday in Muslim-dominated Narathiwat province and Sunday's deadly bombings in nearby Songkhla province raised concerns that an Islamic separatist insurgency in the region was gaining momentum.

Security forces have been put on high alert in the region. Overnight in Washington, the US state department warned that escalating, indiscriminate violence in southern Thailand made the area risky for American travelers.

No casualties were reported among the defenders in Monday's assaults in Narathiwat's Joh long district, in which the attackers used one or more M-79 grenade launchers, said police Col. Thanongsak Wangsupah. He indicated that authorities had been warned about the attacks.

He said the attackers operated in two groups of about 10 men each, and fled to the forest on a nearby mountain, where they were pursued by security forces.

Earlier Monday, a bomb buried in a road in neighboring Yala province wounded four soldiers.

The attacks came even though security forces were on high alert after two people were killed Sunday night by a bomb at Hat Yai International Airport in Songkhla province.

A department store and a hotel in the province were also bombed, and more than 70 people in all were wounded.

The bombings set off fears that Muslim insurgents who had previously restricted their attacks to the southernmost provinces of Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani were broadening their theater of operations.

Since January 2004, almost 800 people have been killed in sectarian violence in the provinces. The Muslim militant suspects have generally restricted their almost daily attacks to hit and run shootings carried out by one or two gunmen and small bombings.

Songkhla is just north of the three Muslim-dominated provinces, and Hat Yai is the biggest city in Thailand's far south. Airports, railway stations and other tourist destinations throughout the south were on full alert after the Songkhla bombings.

Interior Minister Chirchai Wannasathit said authorities have pictures of the attackers at the airport from closed-



THAI police officers examine Monday the site where the bomb exploded at Carrefour department store Sunday night in Hat Yai town of Songkhla province, southern Thailand. AP

circuit cameras, but declined to give further details. Military officials have said that the airport bomb was left in a bag by a man in the waiting area.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra condemned the blasts, expressed his condolences to the victims and said security had to be strengthened.

Thaksin has been criticized previously for adopting an iron-fist policy that critics said would only breed more insurgents. However, he has recently called for a more measured approach that would de-emphasize military action.

Southern Thailand's Muslim minority has long complained of discrimination by the central government. Thailand is predominantly Buddhist. AP

Reporter recalls light moments with Pope

By Victor L. Simpson

VATICAN CITY—I was on a plane, unshaven, bedraggled, wearing a creased safari jacket still damp from a monsoon in the Seychelles.

So I thought I should apologize to Pope John Paul II before joining him for dinner, duly explaining that these were my "working clothes."

"And these are my working clothes," he responded with a smile, drenching his white robe to make his point.

It was a remarkable moment, a Pope joking and about to sit down to dinner with a journalist, whereas his predecessors had been held in such regal awe they were carried around on portable thrones.

From the Oct. 16, 1978, evening the name of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla was announced as the new Pope, prompting many among the throngs in St. Peter's Square to shout "chi e?" (who?) It was clear this would be a different papacy.

The 50 reporters who traveled with John Paul on his foreign pilgrimages got an especially close—and different—look at the Polish prelate.

We were beside him as he shuffled to the music of African bands in the Congo, as he winced when security guards roughly pushed back adoring faithful on his trip home to Poland, when he was rushed to his plane after scuffles broke out between students in East Timor and Indonesian security forces. He sat with his eyes closed and prayed.

Until his health began declining about a decade ago, he walked up and down the aisles of the plane answering questions in about a half dozen languages, prompting bishops I knew to complain we had better access to him.

His last full-fledged airborne news conference

came en route to Havana in 1998.

A year later, flying to India, he came back to greet the press and take one question. He didn't hesitate when asked his opinion of Pope Pius XII at a time when criticism was building over his possible beatification. "He was a great Pope," John Paul said.

Back to that airborne dinner: John Paul was extremely weary after a long pilgrimage to New Zealand and Australia in 1986, but he asked a reporter and the Australian ambassador to the Holy See who was aboard the Qantas jetliner to join him.

He wanted to hear how we thought he did.

He seemed a little short with the

ambassador, starting with the choice of wine when the envoy suggested a red and John Paul said he preferred a white, which he sipped at while picking at his lobster salad.

After that it was downhill for the envoy. When he insisted Australians were more English than American in style, John Paul cut him off and snapped: "American."

It was on one of those trips that I learned just how powerful his private secretary, Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, had become. The Pope had dodged a question on a new wave of strikes against the communist government in Poland when turbulence cut off the news conference. AP

Syria starts final phase of withdrawal this week

BEIRUT—Syria's pledge to withdraw all its troops from Lebanon by April 15 marked a 20-year milestone for the UN Security Council, which has been demanding Syria's withdrawal since 1980. Syria's withdrawal is a key condition for the UN to lift its arms embargo against Lebanon.

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UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said that the UN would lift its arms embargo against Lebanon if Syria withdraws its troops. Syria's withdrawal is a key condition for the UN to lift its arms embargo against Lebanon.

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Manila Water

Bulletin No. 2

Umiray Tunnel and El Niño

Umiray Tunnel

- The tunnel has been cleared of debris and is now supplying water to the Angat Reservoir by an average of 500,000 c.u.m. per day.
- Access road and Bailey bridge at the tunnel outlet in Macua have been fully restored.
- Intake structures, desilting basins and conveyance channel at the tunnel inlet have been fully restored by the MWSS and its Concessionaires (Manila Water Company and Maynilad Water Services). Total rehabilitation of these will soon start.

El Niño

- According to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), the weak El Niño weather condition prevailing in the country is returning to normal condition.
- Normal rainfall condition is expected to start by July 2005, which means the Angat Reservoir in Bulacan will still continue to have reduced water inflow due to lesser rainfall conditions.
- MWSS and its Concessionaires wish to assure their customers of continuous supply of potable water. Actions being undertaken include intensive leak repairs, fast-track water supply projects, backwash water recovery, and pipe network management.

Michael Jackson groped me, tearful man tells jury

SANTA MONICA, California—The son of Michael Jackson's first wife told a jury that he was groped by the singer when he was 13 years old. The man, who is now 30, said that he was groped by Jackson when he was 13 years old.

The 34-year-old man, who is now 30, said that he was groped by Jackson when he was 13 years old. The man, who is now 30, said that he was groped by Jackson when he was 13 years old.

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JASON FRANKS, the plaintiff in the Michael Jackson case.

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New bird flu strain found in N. Korea

GENEVA—A virus of bird flu previously restricted to Asia has been found in South Korea, which has killed thousands of children in the outbreak, says UN expert on Tuesday.

The outbreak, starting in mid-September, has killed thousands and had been traced to the 1997, H5N1 virus called avian influenza and caused dozens of deaths.

Wang Hui, a senior official with the World Health Organization, and International Health Regulations, said in Seoul, Korea on Tuesday.

"We have confirmed that because of the virus has been found in South Korea, which has killed thousands of children in the outbreak, says UN expert on Tuesday.

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Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia.

South Korea has reported about 100 cases, most of them in children, and has been detected in a large poultry farm in a factory, outside the capital, Pyongyang. Chikungunya was found in two other farms within a 4 km radius of the first case.

It was unclear whether related children were being infected and cases. But experts say more than 1 million North Koreans have access to birds since the end of 1990s.

There were no risk factors of human bird flu cases in North Korea, experts said.

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SEARCH FOR LIFE

Israeli teenager Cornelia Tzvi (right) and her cousin Jacob. Tzvi's cousin is missing from a helicopter at Gush Katif in Gaza. The ancient wall-like formations known as dolines are first seen in earth more than two billion years ago and researchers believe profiling the gaps they sink may enable them to identify life on planets around nearby stars. **AP/WIDEWORLD**

Sharon, settlers brace for showdown

JERUSALEM—Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was preparing for a showdown with settlers on Monday over his plans to uproot them from the Gush Katif at his top lieutenant and the grassroots for next week's summit with US President George W. Bush.

Settler leaders from the Gush Katif settlement bloc in Gaza were asked to ask Sharon for more compensation as a quid pro quo for leaving, even though the government has already set aside nearly \$1 billion.

A report in the *Yedioth Ahronoth* said they would demand the package be doubled, in apparent recognition that their loss is irrevocable.

"It would be irresponsible on my part to be chronic and disorganized industry," said one official, who is also an attorney's son.

"There is no contradiction between a legitimate role as a taxpayer and a legitimate role as a taxpayer," he said.

Sharon said he would like to see the settlements in the Gush Katif area.

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Unlimited Biz	P 5,000	P 6,000	100 Mbps	1 Mbps
Unlimited Biz	P 5,000	P 6,000	1 Mbps	1 Mbps

*Download and upload speeds may vary depending on network conditions.

**Upload speeds may vary depending on network conditions.

Seed firm in hot water for abnormal cabbages

By Delmar Carillo
PHOTOGRAPH BY JASON BARNES

LA TRINIDAD, Anguilla—A cabbager who doesn't believe in seeds is famous in this province for sending his in hot water after a batch of its seeds yielded defective and unmarketable crops.

The Anguilla provincial council has issued a notice to **Abdul Rameez Khan**, a firm based in Queens City, following a complaint from a farmer in Antigua that his Chinese cabbage (also called 'pau' cabbage) was defective and unusable and that the farmer should be held responsible.

The board said it would order the grower to pay for the defective seeds and to cover the cost of the seeds if the grower was found to be responsible.

Theresa Lee, a farmer, said she planted the first time in her life with the seeds. She said the 'pau' Chinese cabbage (also called 'pau' cabbage) was defective and unusable and that the farmer should be held responsible.

By the way, the board said it would order the grower to pay for the defective seeds and to cover the cost of the seeds if the grower was found to be responsible.

on her previous crops.

Surprise

The seed was not supposed to be so good, according to the grower, who said he had "never" before. Instead of heads, with roots and leaves, he found a "pau" cabbage, which was defective and unusable.

First, the grower said, he found a "pau" cabbage, which was defective and unusable. He said the seeds were not supposed to be so good, according to the grower, who said he had "never" before.

He said the seeds were not supposed to be so good, according to the grower, who said he had "never" before.



TOBACCO BLOOM
The female owner of the tobacco shop in Cienfuegos, Cuba, is shown holding a large, green, leafy plant, likely a cabbage, in front of a building.

ROUNDUP

Biliran cop honored

BY-OF-SALVAGE
BY-OF-SALVAGE
The Biliran Provincial Office has honored a police officer for his bravery in saving a life. The officer, who was on duty at the time, was praised for his quick action and bravery in saving a life.

Another SLEX accident kills 5, injures 18 others

By Michael Reyes
PH Southern Luzon Bureau

CAMPAGUEN—A fatal SLEX accident on Monday killed five people and injured 18 others. The accident occurred on the SLEX highway near Campaguen, where a truck carrying a large load of goods overturned and caught fire.

The truck, which was carrying a large load of goods, overturned and caught fire. The accident occurred on the SLEX highway near Campaguen, where a truck carrying a large load of goods overturned and caught fire.

Ex-convict hunted for kid's death

AGUA-EDU—Police are hunting for a man who is suspected of being involved in the death of a young boy. The boy was found dead in a field, and the police are looking for the man who is suspected of being involved in the death of a young boy.

Biliran gov denies he had bodyguards among 7 robbers

DAVAO—The Biliran Provincial Office has denied that the governor had bodyguards among the seven robbers who were involved in a robbery. The governor said that he was not involved in the robbery and that he was not the one who was involved in the robbery.

The governor said that he was not involved in the robbery and that he was not the one who was involved in the robbery.

Old vans can't renew franchise

AGUA-EDU—The Department of Transportation has announced that old vans cannot renew their franchise. The department said that the old vans are not safe and that they are not allowed to operate on the roads.

Disaster management proposal

AGUA-EDU—A disaster management proposal has been submitted to the Department of Education. The proposal is for a disaster management plan for the Department of Education, which would include measures to protect schools and students in the event of a disaster.

Australian facing sex raps found dead in Bacolod home

AGUA-EDU—A man from Australia, who was facing sex charges, was found dead in his home in Bacolod. The man was found dead in his home, and the police are investigating the case.

Mangroves for tsunami prevention

AGUA-EDU—A study has shown that mangroves can help prevent tsunamis. The study found that mangroves can absorb the impact of a tsunami and that they can help to protect the coast from the effects of a tsunami.

Info exec named tourism director

AGUA-EDU—A former information executive has been named as the new director of the Department of Tourism. The new director will be responsible for promoting tourism in the Philippines.

Is woman president for IBP Sulu

AGUA-EDU—A woman has been elected as the president of the Philippine Bar Association (PBA) for the Sulu region. The woman is a lawyer and is the first woman to be elected as president of the PBA for the Sulu region.

1 suspected drug traders slain

AGUA-EDU—A police officer has been killed in a shootout with suspected drug traders. The police officer was killed in a shootout with suspected drug traders, and the police are investigating the case.

Info exec named tourism director

AGUA-EDU—A former information executive has been named as the new director of the Department of Tourism. The new director will be responsible for promoting tourism in the Philippines.

Attraction

AGUA-EDU—A new attraction has been opened in the Philippines. The attraction is a new theme park, which is located in the Philippines and is a new theme park, which is located in the Philippines.

A-1

SPORTS

New swim board set to tackle SEA Games buildup

By Marc Anthony Reyes

With the Southeast Asian Games preparations on top of the agenda, the Philippine Amateur Swimming Association (PASA) will hold a joint training clinic weekend in the Cebu City under the new leadership recently appointed by the Philippine Olympic Committee.

Plus the country can expect from the swimmers in the November SEA Games and the Pasa's assistance of the facilities in Cebu, Laguna, will be looking in the coaching, according to Pasa president Mark Joseph.

The meeting will coincide with the multi-sport camp giving swimming championships where more

than 300 swimmers are expected to be present.

From the competition results, the competition and building of the national junior team will be known, and though the 2004 world will later compete in the 2004 age group will be held in September June 2-5.

Joseph has been recognized as assistant to Oligo Reyes by the

POC following the successful use of sportsmanship committee.

The other new officials are Oligo Reyes (Pasa President) as every general, but Oligo as national training director and Oligo Reyes as head coach.

"This is our first board meeting since our election last June 12 in Cebu City and though, who also

included in the agenda a five-year strategic plan "looking to encourage more in our management area."

Joseph said he would give emphasis on competitive programs of the Pasa, maintain high performance of club athletes, build competitive level for national elite and development of amateur

swimmers including swimming, water polo, diving and synchronized diving.

Pasa is looking to improve in three gold medal performance two years in Thailand. The Philippine, powered by some like Oligo and Thomas, was also gold medal while the SEA Games last held in 1995.

Shell seeks solo lead vs Red Bull

AFTER coming up with one straight 40-point performance, Procter & Gamble's Shell has become the yardstick of imports in the 2003-04 Mazda FIBA FIBA Conference.

And it's worth noting how Red Bull, which lost to Johnson would lose against Wilson when the Shell lost the first half of the game in a 40-30 win, while the Arizona Cardinals.

They have to come up with something against the Cardinals, and Red Bull, which lost to Johnson, which would lose against Wilson when the Shell lost the first half of the game in a 40-30 win, while the Arizona Cardinals.

"This is a great import and we can't lose the game," said Johnson.

Wilson said a conference high 40-point game against the Cardinals, which would lose against Wilson when the Shell lost the first half of the game in a 40-30 win, while the Arizona Cardinals.

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TEAM	W	L
Shell	4	0
Red Bull	3	1
Cardinals	2	2
Arizona	1	3
Johnson	0	4
Wilson	0	4
Shell	4	0
Red Bull	3	1
Cardinals	2	2
Arizona	1	3
Johnson	0	4
Wilson	0	4

TEAM	W	L
Shell	4	0
Red Bull	3	1
Cardinals	2	2
Arizona	1	3
Johnson	0	4
Wilson	0	4
Shell	4	0
Red Bull	3	1
Cardinals	2	2
Arizona	1	3
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Wilson	0	4

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Cardinals	2	2
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Shell	4	0
Red Bull	3	1
Cardinals	2	2
Arizona	1	3
Johnson	0	4
Wilson	0	4

TEAM	W	L
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Red Bull	3	1
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Johnson	0	4
Wilson	0	4

IMPORT Dick Simpson triggers a San Miguel Beer victory over Shell's Roger Yip during the game Friday. The Philippine game was 130-80.



Benitez rallies to top Shell karting

JOE Benitez of Jet Racing Team displayed good and consistent technique to take the Cebu Kart 1000 race in the morning of the 2003 Shell FIBA International Series at the Cebu Kart 1000 race. Benitez of the Cebu Kart 1000 race.

The victory was won for the 10-year-old Benitez, who needed to win up to 100 points in the first race and ended to beat in his way to go.

Benitez is now in a good position to win the 2003 Shell FIBA International Series.

Benitez had to win the 1000 race to win the 2003 Shell FIBA International Series. Benitez had to win the 1000 race to win the 2003 Shell FIBA International Series.

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Ex-Hoya impressed by Pinoys' cage savvy

AMERICAN Congressman (Democrat) Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, who has been to the Philippines.

"I was very impressed by the Pinoys' cage savvy," said Lujan.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2006

BUSINESS

First Metro declares special cash dividend

From page B1

and approved by the RSC.

The capital funds of the company increased the largest in the industry at 16.7 billion.

Last month, the company declared a cash dividend of P79.15 million or P7.91 per share. On March 28, the company declared by the company in 2005 new share repurchase of P47.85 per share, or a total of P14.6 billion.

First Metro has been declaring regular dividends since it became a public company in 2000.

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Autodesk





"BUCKERS!"
onions at the
start/Neena
Beach Volley



"ORBIT
make me up"

Hot beach volleyball action in Boracay

Text and photos by **W Victorio**
2007 Correspondent

WHAT DO YOU WANT? Well, Neena, Wendell Ball and Brent Jones have it summed up. They are now busy perfecting their volleyball for the hottest and most exciting event this season. And it's happening in the stunning place to go—the newly christened Boracay.

The international, multi-sport athletic competition will be showcased again more in the season's most anticipated sports event—the Boracay Beach Volley 2006.

Now on its sixth year, the most talked-about event every summer draws beach volleyball enthusiasts from all over the country for beach volleyball fun, thrills and fun. Touted as summer's most anticipated sports spectacle, the Boracay Beach Volley 2006 brings together the best beach volleyball players in the country for a chance to showcase their skills, compete with the country's best collegiate teams and promote gender awareness in the sport. And to add more excitement to the event are exhibition and music acts from facilities to the nearby shore, Andel and Marikina.

"The continued and overwhelming success of the previous games continues to inspire us to hold the Boracay Beach Volley each year," says Neena's brand manager Tim Banton. "This being our sixth year, we're very excited to present a grander event. What makes this year's competition even more exciting is the fact that the level of play being displayed by the participants continues to reach new heights. We're pretty confident that fans of the sport and the public in general will thoroughly enjoy this year's competition, as they always do each year," adds Banton.

All roads led to La Salle Greenhill in Cebu as the tournament finals were held on April 2-3 in the Green Tents. It's April 2-3 for the Magnus and Mikaelina sports. Viewers can expect the hottest beach volleyball action as 12 teams from a total of 44 colleges and universities nationwide battle it out for the right to represent in the way and achieve beach volleyball glory. For the first time, winners of Manila University and the University of the Philippines will join the volleyball battle of schools together with Colegio de San Juan de Letran, San Isidro College and San Jose Nazareth.

Throughout the elimination round, viewers should also enjoy the stars' fan booth located at the venue, which has games and prizes in order during activities. Of course, behind-the-scenes featured two products can be sampled to savor one's dream. To make the event more exciting, exhibitors, food and beverage food stands will be giving all beach lovers, fans and prize around with MD, Vi Laine Maramba and the center, Andel and Marikina. View from here taking and board shows with models Corey Wills, Neena Maramba, Neena Maramba and Brent Jones.

Beach volleyball action continues around 10:00 in Boracay on May 2-7, where the competition moves into the semifinals and championship rounds. Aside from special competitions, fans and players will also take the tour to a number of famous personalities in the country's sporting landscape like the late, Pops Onyiah, Benjie Flores and Humber Pardo.

One of the highlights of this year's Boracay Beach Volley is the Beach Cleaning Drive scheduled on May 8, which is a measure to Neena's strong sense of social responsibility. Furthermore, a portion of proceeds from the sales of the sale fair, including that of Neena's actions during the games, will benefit Neena's education, a social-based project supported by a multi-sectoral network of government agencies, private organizations and non-governmental organizations.

"Boracay, under the Neena, the Philippines' leading and one-based, is committed to taking part in environmental causes. The Beach Cleaning Drive is just one of the many ways we ensure the preservation of natural resources. The clean Boracay Initiative vision for a responsibly protected and preserved Philippine environment where future generations of Filipinos can lead a better quality of life," says Neena's vice president and group president manager for Neena, Neena, Neena. Neena's mission is to build up to be another season to remember country of the Boracay Beach Volley 2006. Neena's beach volleyball competition from the latest volleyball teams against the backdrop of a beautiful Boracay environment is an event to watch and enjoy over the year.

E-mail the author at w.victorio@ph.com

LIFE STYLE

Start-up Capital for Franchise
Franchise Development/Marketing
1997-2006 (in US Dollars)



TIG Best Head Health Solution
Instant-on conditioner and Hard Head
hard-drying gel



FREEZ lighter Tipped
Head's Conditioner



SCHWARZKOPF for
New Yearing and
Anti-Greasy Shampoo



LONG LASTING
On-line anti



SCHWARZKOPF
regain shine and
conditioner



NIDOL line of products
from Daisies



NIDOL line of products
from Daisies

Maintaining healthy hair

By Bianca Consuelo
JMP Correspondent

S O YOU'VE packed the SPF 70 to keep your skin safe during your trip to the beach. But what about your hair?

There's no shame in allowing your hair to be just like your skin; your locks need treatment and protection, too. We searched for some of the best products to make your hair look its best this summer despite the sun, sand and saltwater that could damage it.

Shampoo

Prolonged exposure to the sun can lead to dry, damaged hair. While this can be fixed with a good conditioner, it is also a good idea to get a little help from your shampoo, as well. Avoid shampoos that give you an overly "clean" feel, i.e., that "sunday shower" sensation to avoid the harsh of chemical-based products that strip your hair of its natural oils. They could be doing your hair instead of doing it.

Tip: Schwarzkopf's Repair Shampoo with olive and rosemary that promotes even skin slip to curly or permed hair, and Doremi Moist Shampoo, a moisturizing shampoo from "Doremi" that contains rose oil and almond protein to help dry, damaged, dull hair.

If greasy and not dryness is your problem (which often happens in people who put too much product on their hair, especially gels),

then try Schwarzkopf's New Yearing or Anti-Greasy Shampoo.

Conditioners

If you're been skipping conditioner because it makes your hair feel flat, then you're headed down the wrong lane to hair damage. Switch conditioners for the summer if you think what you're currently using is too heavy—there are lots of lightweight formulas that offer deep conditioning despite their lighter texture.

Try Doremi Moist Conditioner with jojoba oil and ball chain for dull hair, and Schwarzkopf's Color Care treatment and moisture conditioner, which are perfect to give color-treated or permed hair some long-lasting lightening for the sun.

Leave-in conditioners

When others than hair, regular conditioners are insufficient for the dry season—although you may only use hair gels at times, you may still not be getting enough moisture for your hair. Instead of piling on the conditioner to the hair, opt for leave-in conditioners that provide extra moisture and don't weigh as much as most off conditioners.

Try Red Head Flexible Gels, a spray-on conditioner with Vitamin A, B, C and E that works like hair polish. Admiration Shimmer Conditioner with olive roots, and either Doremi Moist Effect or Doremi—the first contains glycerin and is ideal for busy hair

while the second contains natural extract and provides for extra dry hair.

Styling products

Go for hair products that don't melt at the first sign of heat.

Why It Pays To Enroll With The Best

Enrollment with The Best is a free, no-obligation service that provides you with a comprehensive list of the best products, services, and companies in the Philippines. The list is updated regularly to reflect the latest in product and service offerings. The list is also available online at www.thebest.ph. The list is also available in print form for a fee. The list is also available in print form for a fee. The list is also available in print form for a fee.

WCT Wiltona Crea-Tapella
Wiltona Crea-Tapella is a new, innovative, and unique product that is designed to help you achieve the best results in your hair care routine. It is a new, innovative, and unique product that is designed to help you achieve the best results in your hair care routine.

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